Photogenic
professional lighting

Skylighter™

Brand
Fluorescent
Strobe Lighting

Operator's Manual

Skylighter CFF2
Skylighter CFF4
Skylighter CFF8

OPERATOR MANUAL FOR SKYLIGHTER

Skylighter CFF2
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Thank you for selecting the Photogenic Professional Skylighter CFF series. The CFF series incorporates the newest electronic components, lamps, reflectors, and diffusion panels providing improved lighting distribution and control. These products are built for the demanding operational needs of the professional photographer and it is our expectation that your Skylighter CFF will provide you with years of dependable service.

INTRODUCTION

The Skylighter CFF series are an extremely diffused light head and require an external power supply. They have one, two, or four professional, plug-in, linear flashtubes, and one, two, or four non-adjustable, linear, fluorescent modeling lamps. The Skylighter CFF series are stand mounted on a strong, rotating yoke, but may be ceiling hung, as required.

Before using your new Skylighter CFF for the first time, please read this manual carefully and acquaint yourself with the controls and features. In this way, you can quickly get the greatest benefit from your new unit and maintain an efficient and safe operation.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Despite the measures that have been taken to make electronic flash equipment safe, it must be recognized that high voltages and high temperatures do exist within the power supply / lighting unit. Certain precautions must be observed in handling the unit. Contact with internal high voltage may result in severe injury or death.

1. Before installing or removing the flashtubes and modeling lamps, be sure this appliance is turned off, cooled and unplugged from AC power source and external power supply.
2. Do not operate this appliance with a frayed or damaged cable
3. Do not attempt to use this appliance if it has been dropped or damaged, until a qualified service person has serviced it.
4. Do not operate the unit with a damaged or broken flashtube or modeling lamp. Do not use flashtubes with broken, cracked or missing glass envelopes. To prevent damage always use Photogenic specified replacements for the flashtubes and modeling lamps.
5. Perform no internal service work on this unit. Refer all such service to a qualified service person or return to the factory. This will provide you safety and continuation of your warranty.
6. Do not operate when water is present and from extreme temperature shifts. If the unit is stored in hot or below freezing temperatures, allow at least one hour at room temperatures before using.

PREPARATION AND BASICS

Unpacking and Setup:

Unpack all units carefully to remove all parts from the carton(s). Do not discard or destroy the packing material until the equipment has been inspected, assembled, and all parts accounted for.

After unpacking, all parts should be examined for any damage, which may have been caused by rough handling during shipment. If any damage is detected, contact the delivering carrier at once. Claim for damage should be made to the delivering carrier before destroying packing cartons.

Unpacking and Setup:

The unit is shipped with the modeling lamps and flashtubes not installed. While installing the modeling lamps and flashtubes (with glove or clean cloth to protect the hand) be sure they are properly inserted and tight to avoid arcing and failure of the socket contacts during operation. Always use a clean cloth or wear gloves to protect your hand from glass breakage and heat. Place the unit on a stable flat surface, face up.

The diffusion panel is held in place with an “L” bracket and thumbscrews. Remove the thumbscrews and “L” bracket. Slide out the diffuser panel. The paper protective sheet must be peeled off the diffusion panel. Use finger nails to start peeling at two corners and continue carefully peeling protective sheet until it is all removed. Do not use razor blade or other mechanical scrapers.

The fluorescent lamps have no polarity. Remove any plastic film from reflector. Install by inserting the glass body into the clear support bracket, and then insert the pins into the top of the socket holes and press base down to snap pins into contacts.

[Removal is accomplished by first lifting the lamp base to release pins from contacts.]

The flash tubes are polarized. Their base has two large pins and two small pins. It will only insert one way. Place end of flash tube into spring support, then insert base pins into socket. Please insert carefully to avoid damage or injury.

With all lamps and flash tubes securely installed, replace diffusion panel (it doesn't really matter which side is in or out.) Panel may catch on lip of frame. If required, turn unit on face to insert panel. Replace "L" bracket and thumbscrews.

To set up the unit, first mount and secure it on a suitable stand. The Skylighter stand adapter allows the unit to be mounted on a stand with a 3/8" to 5/8" post. Be sure to use a stand that is stable and will not tip easily.

With power switch OFF, attach the cable to the circular input connector, located on the back of the Skylighter, and connect the other end to the purchased PowerLight power supply. See PowerLight instructions for installation and operation. **PowerLight modeling light controls must be set to FULL ON for Skylighter fluorescent modeling lamps to function. Only then turn on the Skylighter power switch. THE FLUORESCENT MODELING LAMPS ARE NOT ADJUSTABLE. ANY ADJUSTMENT BY THE POWERLIGHT MODELING WILL DAMAGE THE SKYLIGHTER INTERNAL BALLAST (S).**

Power Input:

The power required to operate the Skylighter fluorescent lamps is 105 to 125 volts AC, 60 Hz and this power comes from the PowerLight, through its' line cord

Circuit Protection:

All circuit protection for the Skylighter is provided by the PowerLight power supply.

Power switch:

The power switch controls only the modeling lamps.

Flash Power:

See the PowerLight power supply instructions. The Skylighter flash power is fully controlled by all features and functions of the PowerLight power supply, to which it is attached.

SPECIFICATIONS

Skylighter CFF2
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General:

	CFF2	CFF4	CFF8
Flash Power	1000 ws max	1000 ws max	1000 ws max
Modeling Light Power	55 watt (300 w incad)	110 watt (600 w incad)	220 watt (1200 w incad)
Modeling Light Control	FULL ON	FULL ON	FULL ON
Flash Overload Protection	15 amp power supply fuse	15 amp power supply fuse	15 amp power supply fuse
Modeling Overload Protection	5 amp power supply fuse, internal	5 amp power supply fuse, internal	5 amp power supply fuse, internal
Packaging	Aluminum case	Aluminum case	Aluminum case
Weight	11 lbs.	16 lbs.	28 lbs.
Dimensions	Box only 23”W x 9”H With yoke 26”W x 14”H	Box only 23”W x 17”H With yoke 26”W x 21.5”H	Box only 23”W x 33”H With yoke 26”W x 37.5”H
Flashtube	1 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard L4-6	2 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard L4-6	4 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard L4-6
Modeling Lamp	1 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard F56	2 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard F56	4 each Plug-in style, use only Photogenic’s Standard F56

Exposure Information: Given as f-stop measurements made on a wall grid of 1 ft. by 1 ft. squares, with the light source centered on the grid center, and placed a fixed distance from the wall. The center number is the actual meter reading. The other numbers are the relative change in readings, with meter position, always at grid crossings. [Minolta Flash Meter V, time = 1/125 sec, iso = 125]

CFF2 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp only)

-0.9	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.9	
-0.9	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.9	
-0.7	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.7	
-0.9	-0.6	-0.1	-0.0	0.7.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.9
-0.9	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.6	-0.9
	-0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.8	
		-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6		

CFF2 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp and Flash, 31ws & 125ws)

-1.1 -1.2	-0.9 -0.9	-0.5 -0.6	-0.4 -0.5	-0.5 -0.6	-0.4 -0.5	-0.5 -0.6	-0.9 -0.9	-1.1 -1.2
-1.0 -1.1	-0.7 -0.8	-0.2 -0.3	-0.2 -0.2	-0.2 -0.3	-0.2 -0.2	-0.2 -0.3	-0.7 -0.8	-1.0 -1.1
-0.9 -1.0	-0.5 -0.6	-0.1 -0.2	-0.0 -0.0	-0.0 -0.1	-0.0 -0.0	-0.1 -0.2	-0.5 -0.6	-0.9 -1.0
-0.8 -1.0	-0.5 -0.6	-0.0 -0.1	-0.0 -0.0	4.0.4 1.4.9	+0.1 -0.0	-0.0 -0.1	-0.5 -0.6	-0.8 -1.0
-0.8 -0.9	-0.6 -0.7	-0.1 -0.2	-0.0 -0.0	-0.1 -0.2	-0.0 -0.0	-0.1 -0.2	-0.6 -0.7	-0.8 -0.9
-1.0 -1.1	-0.8 -0.8	-0.3 -0.4	-0.1 -0.2	-0.3 -0.4	-0.1 -0.2	-0.3 -0.4	-0.8 -0.8	-1.0 -1.1
-1.2 -1.3	-1.0 -1.2	-0.6 -0.6	-0.5 -0.6	-0.6 -0.7	-0.5 -0.6	-0.6 -0.6	-1.0 -1.2	-1.2 -1.3

CFF2 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp and Flash, 250, 500, 1000ws)

-1.1	-0.9	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.9	-1.1
-1.1	-0.8	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.8	-1.1
-1.0	-0.6	-0.2	-0.0	-0.1	-0.0	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0
-0.9	-0.6	-0.1	-0.0	11.8 8.0.7 5.6.6	-0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.9
-0.8	-0.6	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.8
-1.0	-0.8	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.8	-1.0
-1.2	-1.0	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-1.0	-1.2

CFF4 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamps only)

-1.1	-1.0	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-1.0	-1.1
-1.0	-0.8	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.8	-1.0
-0.9	-0.6	-0.3	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.9
-0.7	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1	1.4.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7
-0.9	-0.6	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.9
-1.0	-0.8	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.8	-1.0
-1.1	-1.0	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7	-1.0	-1.1

CFF4 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp and Flash, 31, 63, 125, 250, 500, 1000ws)

-1.0	-0.9	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.9	-1.0
-0.9	-0.7	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7	-0.9
-0.8	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8
-0.8	-0.6	-0.1	-0.0	11.7 8.0.6 5.6.5 4.0.4 2.8.1 2.0.0	-0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.8
-0.8	-0.6	-0.2	-0.0	-0.0	-0.0	-0.2	-0.6	-0.8
-0.9	-0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.8	-0.9
-1.1	-1.0	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-1.0	-1.1

CFF4 at 10 ft. from wall (Fluorescent only and Flash, 31, 125, 1000ws)

	-0.3			-0.1			-0.3	
		-0.1		-0.1		-0.1		
			-0.1	-0.0	-0.1			
-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.0	8.0.1 2.0.8 1.0.6 0.7.9	-0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3
			-0.1	-0.1	-0.1			
		-0.2		-0.2		-0.2		
	0.5			-0.2			-0.5	

CFF8 at 5 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp and Flash, 31, 63, 125, 250, 500, 1000ws)

	-0.9			-0.5			-0.9	
		-0.5		-0.3		-0.5		
			-0.1	-0.1	-0.1			
-0.9	-0.5	-0.2	-0.0	11.4 8.0.3 5.6.2 4.0.1 2.0.9 2.0.3 2.0.0	-0.0	-0.2	-0.5	-0.9
			-0.1	-0.1	-0.1			
		-0.5		-0.3		-0.5		
	-0.9			-0.5			-0.9	

CFF8 at 10 ft. from wall (Fluorescent lamp and Flash, 31, 125, 250, 1000ws)

				-0.1				
				-0.0				
				-0.0				
-0.3	-0.1	-0.0	-0.0	5.6.8 2.8.6 2.0.6 1.0.9 1.0.5	-0.0	-0.0	-0.1	-0.3
				-0.0				
				-0.0				
				-0.1				

SERVICE

The photographer should not attempt to make repairs.

Consult a dealer for an authorized Photogenic Professional Lighting service agent. This will provide you safety, insure proper operational functions and provide continuation of your warranty.

For replacing the flashtube or modeling lamp, follow the directions and specifications given earlier in this manual in the setup section.

Before removing the old tubes or installing new tubes, always unplug your Skylighter and PowerLight generator and discharge the stored energy by pressing the "test" button. Unplug the cable connecting the Skylighter to the PowerLight generator. It is now safe to change the lamps in the Skylighter.

General Trouble Shooting

COMMON PROBLEMS AND CAUSES

Unit does not flash.

Probable causes:

a. No power. (Check cable connections and PowerLight generator status.)
b. One or more tubes not flashing. (Flash tube jarred loose or broken from rough transport. Check.)

Modeling light does not turn on.

Probable causes:

a. Switch OFF. (Turn ON.)
b. No power. (Check that PowerLight generator is set to FULL ON.)
c. Lamp burned out. (Inspect and replace, when cool. See SERVICE section of this manual)

Limited PowerLight Warranty

Photogenic warranties the “standard line” products are free from defects in material and workmanship of the PL2 series of PowerLights for a period of three years. At our choice, we will repair or replace any PL2 series light that is deemed to be defective. This warranty does not cover damages caused by shipping, product abuse or use other than the intended photographic applications.

Any product modifications will render this warranty void. Use of other manufacture’s accessories, which restrict normal or intended operation (especially venting airflow), may cause damage and will void this warranty.

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